



File Code: 3400
Date: November 20, 2003

Ms. Jil Swearingen
USDI National Park Service
Center for Urban Ecology
4598 Mac Arthur Boulevard, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Jil:

On September 30 and October 1, 2003, Forest Service personnel conducted gypsy moth egg mass surveys at the Greenbelt Park/BW Parkway and Monocacy National Battlefield. The purpose of the surveys was to evaluate the efficacy of the suppression project conducted this past Spring and to assess the potential for defoliation and the need for treatment in 2004.

The location of the survey plots are shown in Figures 1 and 2. In brief, no new egg masses were detected at any of the 21 plots. No gypsy moth defoliation was detected at any of these sites during the aerial detection survey conducted on June 16 (see report dated July 14).

It was not expected that a suppression project using the biological insecticide Gypchek would provide 100 percent foliage protection and a 100 percent gypsy moth population reduction. Based on results of previous suppression projects using Gypchek, foliage protection was expected on approximately 75 percent of the treatment area along with a gypsy moth population reduction in the 50-75 percent range. It is very likely that the results of this year's suppression project was aided by a natural decline of the gypsy moth in the area.

Since no noticeable defoliation is expected, treatment is not recommended in 2004 at these sites.

Also for your information, no egg masses were found at the other federal sites adjacent to the BW Parkway in the Beltsville area.

Please call me at (304) 285-1555 if you have any questions regarding the egg mass surveys or this letter.

Sincerely,

RODNEY L. WHITEMAN

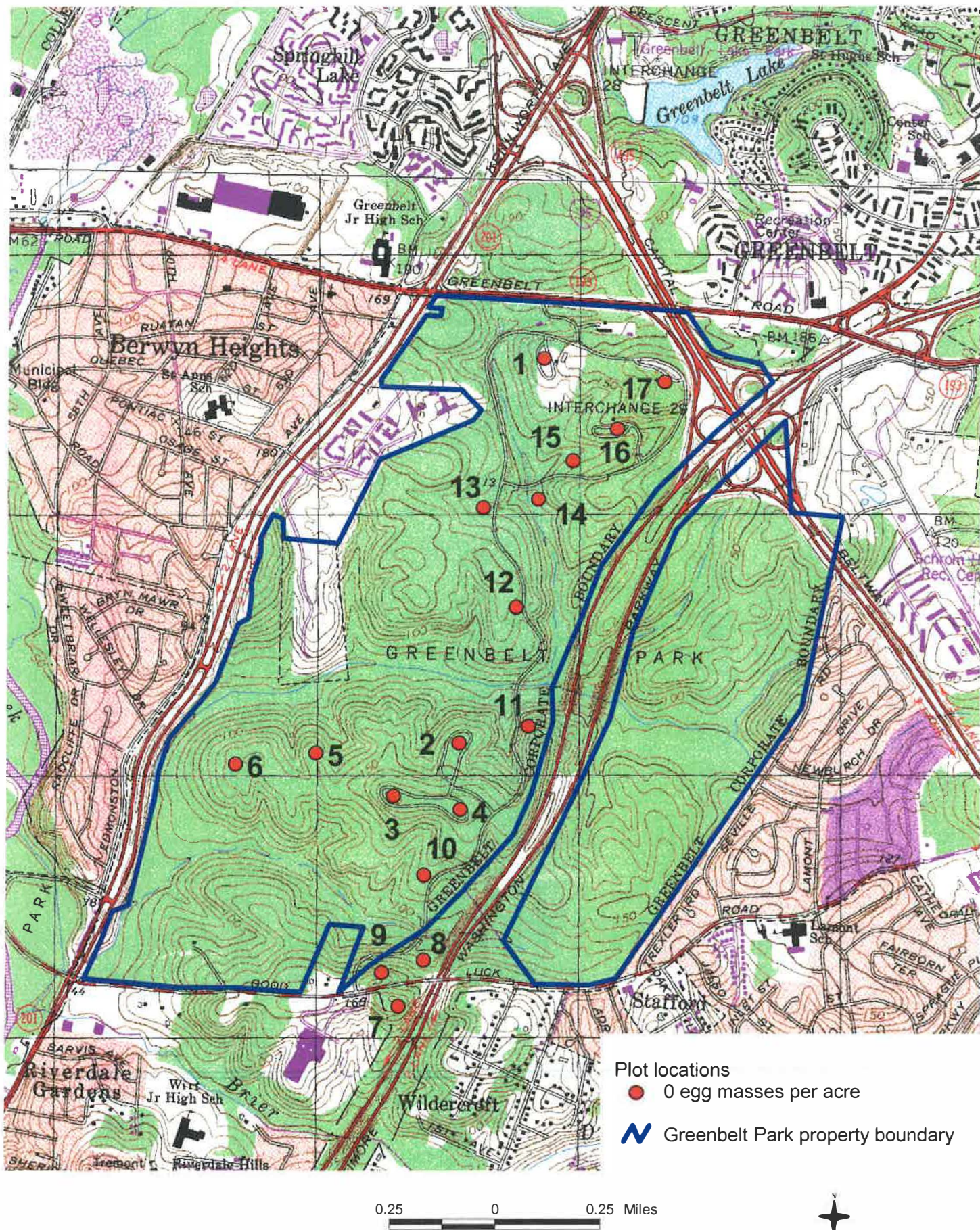
Forester

Forest Health Protection

Cc: Andrew Banasik, MNB
Robert Tichenor, MDA
Sally Hughes, MDA
Betsie Handley, MDA
Noel Schneeberger, AO
Dennis Souto, DFO
Mike Connor, SPFO



Figure 1.--Gypsy moth egg mass survey plot locations at Greenbelt Park, Fall 2003.



**Figure 2.--Gypsy moth egg mass survey plot locations
at Monocacy National Battlefield, Fall 2003.**

